

GIKAS FARMS



Mike G. Gikas

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RECEIVED

AUG 11 2000

CALFED Bay-Delta Program

August 8, 2000

Mr. Steve Ritchie, Acting Executive Director
Cal-Fed Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth St., Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Final Programmatic EIS/EIR

Dear Mr. Ritchie:

I am a San Joaquin County farmer. My family has owned and farmed in SJC Delta since the late 1800's and in the Manteca area since the early 1920's.

The water we use to irrigate in the Manteca area comes from the Stanislaus water shed. This water also feeds into the San Joaquin River which is our source of irrigation water in SJC south Delta.

The Delta property provides habitat for fish and wildlife within the levee system.

The government already owns half the land in California, yet 75 percent of the wildlife exists on privately owned land. We have done a better job of maintaining habitat than has the government.

I am writing to ask you to extend the time to read and comment on the final environmental report released July 21. Please hold public hearings to explain this plan to us. The report is long, complicated and technical.

Sincerely,

Mike G. Gikas

cc: Governor Gray Davis
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
State Sen. Patrick Johnston
Rep. Richard Pombo
Assembly Member Mike Machado
San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors

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